

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany/Poland

REPORT

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SUBJECT Barge Traffic between  
Poland and East Germany

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1. On 6 December 1954, the Fuerstenberg/Oder barge harbor was decorated with East German, Polish, and Soviet Union flags. These decorations and a city proclamation designated Fuerstenberg/Oder as the "Friendship Port", which was celebrating the entry of Polish barges into East Germany for travel to East Berlin. This celebration was for the introduction of free barge traffic between Poland and East Germany. The Poles are scheduled to travel over all the East German inland waterways, but the main emphasis will be on the run from Gliwice (Gleiwitz) and Wroclaw (Breslau) to Fuerstenberg/Oder and East Berlin. The East German barges in turn will concentrate on the run from Fuerstenberg/Oder to Gliwice. The motto for this celebration was "Fahrt frei fuer die polnische und die deutsche Schifffahrt." This celebration was attended by representatives of Poland, East Germany and the Soviet Union.
2. At the completion of the celebration, twenty Polish barges and several tugs proceeded from Fuerstenberg/Oder to East Berlin. The Polish barges were loaded with coal.
3. On December 4, 1954, two DSU tugs departed from Fuerstenberg/Oder to Gliwice, Poland.
4. The DSU will only send barges to Gliwice which used to belong to the Deutsche Oder Schifffahrt. The DOS was theoretically liquidated when the Soviets turned the DOS barges over to the DSU. The old DSU barges still have the DOS bow designation. These barges are being utilized because the DSU does not want to send its own barges to Poland as late in the year as December. The Soviets had retained nominal control over the old DOS barges and insisted that traffic be initiated prior to 1955.

Comment: Deutsche Schifffahrts u. Umschlagsbetriebszentrale.

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